

Applic. No. 10/033,127
Amdt. dated January 16, 2007
Reply to Office action of October 16, 2006

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 2-5, 7, 10, and 12 remain in the application. Claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 14 were previously cancelled from the application.

In item 2 on page 2 of the above-noted Office action, claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, and 12 have been rejected as being obvious over Price et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,571,710 B1) (hereinafter "Price") in view of Dini (U.S. Patent No. 3,964,386) and Chase et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,986,088) (hereinafter "Chase") under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

As will be explained below, it is believed that the claims were patentable over the cited art in their original form and the claims have, therefore, not been amended to overcome the references.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claims 10 and 12 call for, *inter alia*:

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a plurality of glazing rollers disposed downline from the single metering element along a peripheral line of the roller.

On page 2 of the Office action, the Examiner alleges that Price discloses "a single metering element (42, Fig. 6)" and "a glazing roller (18, Fig. 2) disposed downline from said single metering element along a peripheral line of said roller". Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's allegations. More specifically, as is shown by the arrow in Figs. 2, 3, and 6 of Price, the direction of rotation of the form roller (15) is clockwise. Accordingly, Price discloses that the oscillator roller (18) is disposed upstream (upline) of the doctor blade (42). Therefore, it is respectfully noted that the Examiner's allegation that Price discloses that the glazing roller is disposed downstream of the single metering element, is not accurate.

Furthermore, because Price discloses that the oscillator roller (18) is upstream of the doctor blade, Price teaches away from the present invention as claimed.

It is a requirement for a *prima facie* case of obviousness, that the prior art references must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

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As seen from the above-given remarks, the references do not show or suggest a plurality of glazing rollers disposed downline from the single metering element along a peripheral line of the roller, as recited in claims 10 and 12 of the instant application.

The references applied by the Examiner do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Therefore, it is believed that the Examiner has not produced a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Since independent claims 10 and 12 are believed to be allowable, dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 7, and 10 are believed to be allowable as well.

Even though claims 10 and 12 are believed to be allowable, the following further remarks pertain to the Price reference and the fact that none of the other rollers disclosed in Price can be considered glazing rollers.

Price discloses that a chill roller (60) is disposed downstream (downline) of the doctor blade (42). The doctor blade (42) is part of the ink reservoir (50). However, the chill roller (60) of Price cannot be considered a glazing roller, as recited in the claims of the instant application.

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Particularly, Price discloses that the chill roller (60) cools the ink. Accordingly, Price discloses that the chill roller (60) does not serve to smooth the ink (column 6, lines 62-63). Also, Price does not disclose that the chill roller (60) has a rubber-elastic surface (in Price, rollers with a rubber-elastic circumferential surface are designated by a double circumferential line, such as rollers 15, 18, and 35) (column 4, lines 27 and 56-57 and column 7, line 13).

Furthermore, Price teaches away from providing the chill roller (60) with a rubber-elastic circumferential surface. More specifically, Price discloses that the chill roller (60) has an outer surface that is a good thermal conductor. A rubber-elastic surface is not a good thermal conductor.

Moreover, a person of ordinary skill in the art is not motivated to provide the chill roller (60) of Price with a rubber-elastic circumferential surface because Price discloses the chill roller (60) lies upon the form roller (15), which already has a rubber-elastic circumferential surface. Also, the chill roller (60) does not contact any other non-rubber rollers.

Price does disclose a roller (D1) downstream of the doctor blade (42). However, the roller (D1) is a dampening roller

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serving for delivering dampening solution to the form roller (15). This is contrary to the present invention as claimed, in which the glazing rollers smooth ink elevations. Moreover, Price discloses that the roller (D1) has a chrome circumferential surface and not a rubber-elastic circumferential surface.

As seen from the above-given remarks none of the noted rollers can be consider glazing rollers as recited in the claims of the instant application. Also, as seen the above-given remarks there is no motivation for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify any of the noted rollers to be glazing rollers as recited in the claims of the instant application.

In item 3 on page 5 of the above-noted Office action, claim 4 has been rejected as being obvious over Price (U.S. Patent No. 6,571,710 B1) in view of Dini (U.S. Patent No. 3,964,386) and Chase (U.S. Patent No. 2,986,088) and further in view of Jeschke (U.S. Patent No. 4,089,264) under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Jeschke does not make up for the deficiencies of Price, Chase, and Dini. Since claim 10 is believed to be allowable, dependent claim 4 is believed to be allowable as well. under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

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It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 10 or 12. Claims 10 and 12 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claim 10, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-5, 7, 10, and 12 are solicited.

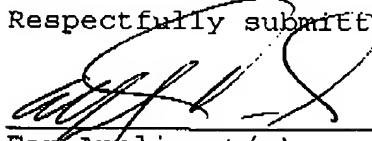
In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

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Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect
to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner
Greenberg Stemmer LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,


For Applicant(s)

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